



STEVEN R. COVER
COMMISSIONER
OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

BIOGRAPHY

Steven R. Cover assumed the position as commissioner of the Department of Planning and Community Development for the City of Atlanta in January 2006. He has direct responsibility for the management and oversight of five major areas including the Bureaus of Planning, Buildings, Housing, Code Enforcement, and the Atlanta Urban Design Commission. Some of his top priorities as Commissioner include: improving the permitting plan review process, restructuring the department to make it more efficient, managing the Beltline Development Project, and creating new, affordable, workforce housing.

Under his leadership, the Department is also responsible for completing the Comprehensive Development Plan and creating the City's first Transportation Master Plan. Mr. Cover and his staff are committed to improving the quality of life in neighborhoods across Atlanta by, among other things, redeveloping and beautifying major corridors and promoting new green space and parks.

Prior to joining Mayor Shirley Franklin's senior staff, Mr. Cover was the Director of the Department of Environment and Community Development for Fulton County where he served in that position since 2001. Under his leadership at Fulton County, Mr. Cover and his team received numerous national and state awards including the *Distinguished Achievement in Planning Award* from the Georgia Planning Association in 2004. The Atlanta Regional Commission honored him with the *Exceptional Merit Award* for the Visionary Cooperative Planning Process of the Chattahoochee Hill Country Master Plan in 2003; and he received the *Outstanding Plan Implementation Award* from the Georgia Planning Association that same year.

Mr. Cover holds two Masters Degrees; one in city planning and the other in architecture, from the Georgia Institute of Technology where he also obtained his Bachelor of Science Degree in architecture. He is a registered member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), a member of the Regional Leadership Institute, and a Board member of the Georgia Planning Association and on the Executive Board of ULI- Atlanta.

Mr. Cover is happily married to his wife Barbara and has two children, Leah and Jordan.